

Series: DOERS

Title: Hold Your Tongue

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Like a wise doctor James diagnoses (spiritual) health by using a tongue depressor. Seeing, and in this case hearing what's in our mouth, is one of the quickest ways to measure Christ-likeness. As you open in prayer ask the Spirit to show us our true health and what we need to do to become more spiritually healthy. Read James 3.

1. Why is it especially important for teachers/leaders to "not go off" at the mouth?
2. What exactly does James expect in verse 2 when he talks about being perfect?
3. Growing up many of us heard, "If you don't have something good to say, don't say anything." What do you think of that advice?
4. On the one hand James acts like the "bad" cop: tough, no nonsense, direct. On the other hand, he can be the "good" cop: "Look dear brothers and sisters, we all stumble in many ways". Why is it important for teachers and everyone else to have both skills?
5. Even if you don't use Snap Chat, what's the illusion behind it?
6. James doesn't tell us how to handle our tongues in this passage. Why not? Because he already has back in 1:22. Reread that verse along with his earlier warning in 1:26. What steps do we take?
7. Winning the battle with the tongue/heart doesn't come easily. James says it's ongoing. The tongue is a restless evil. Does it help to know it's set inspired by hell?
8. ONLY FOR THE CRAZY----- Ask this question if you're really willing to hear the answer.
  - ✓ For your family ask, "What's it like to hear me talk to you"?  
And...
  - ✓ What's it like to hear me talk in our group?

OVER

9. What else stood to you from the message?

Wrap your time up praying for each other and others that we wouldn't be arsonists.

Psalm 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.

